

**MINUTES OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Tuesday , February 6, 2018 • 8:00 a.m. • 210 Senate Building

Members Present:

Sen. David P. Hinkins, Senate Chair
Rep. Stewart E. Barlow, House Chair
Rep. Scott H. Chew, House Vice Chair
Sen. Jim Dabakis
Sen. Margaret Dayton
Sen. Don L. Ipson
Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Sen. Ralph Okerlund
Sen. Evan J. Vickers
Rep. Carl R. Albrecht
Rep. Kay J. Christofferson

Rep. Susan Duckworth
Rep. Stephen G. Handy
Rep. Karen Kwan
Rep. Michael E. Noel
Rep. Lee B. Perry
Rep. Douglas V. Sagers
Rep. Keven J. Stratton
Rep. Christine F. Watkins

Staff Present:

Mr. Ivan D. Djambov, Fiscal Analyst
Mr. Alexander R. Wilson, Fiscal Analyst
Ms. Katiemarie Harmon, Committee Secretary

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

Chair Chew called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

1 . RFA - Air Quality Science for Solutions - Rep. Barlow, Rep. Redd

Rep. Barlow and Rep. Redd presented the appropriation request with the assistance of Mr. Bryce Bird, Director, Utah Division of Air Quality, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

2 . Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Sen. Dabakis moved to approve the minutes from January 29th, 2018. The motion passed with a vote of 14 - 0 - 5 .

Yeas-14

Rep. C. Albrecht
Rep. S. Barlow
Rep. S. Chew
Rep. K. Christofferson
Sen. J. Dabakis
Sen. M. Dayton
Rep. S. Handy
Sen. D. Ipson
Rep. K. Kwan
Sen. R. Okerlund
Rep. L. Perry
Rep. D. Sagers
Sen. E. Vickers
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays-0

Absent-5

Rep. S. Duckworth
Sen. D. Hinkins
Sen. P. Knudson
Rep. M. Noel
Rep. K. Stratton

3 . RFA - Freight Switcher Emissions Mitigation - Rep. Handy

Rep. Handy presented the appropriation request with the assistance of Glade Sowards, Policy Analyst, Utah Division of Air Quality, DEQ.

Sen. Dabakis, Rep. Christofferson, and Sen. Ipson asked questions about the requested appropriation.

Dr. Daniel Mendoza, Post-Doctoral Fellow, University of Utah, presented on the requested appropriation.

4 . RFA - Air Quality FTE: Stack Test Auditor - Rep. Handy

Rep. Handy presented the appropriation request with the assistance of Mr. Bird.

5 . RFA - Air Quality FTE: Technical Analysis Scientist - Rep. Handy

Rep. Handy presented the appropriation request with the assistance of Mr. Bird.

Rep. Noel asked a question about the appropriation.

Mr. Ivan Djambov, Fiscal Analyst, LFA, gave an explanation of how to find the appropriations in Compendium of Budget Information (COBI).

6 . RFA - Legal Defense Fund - Sen. Van Tassell

Sen. Van Tassell presented the appropriation request.

7 . RFA - Sage Grouse State Plan - Sen. Van Tassell

Sen. Van Tassell presented the appropriation request with the assistance of Mr. Don Peay, President, Peay's Consulting Company Inc.

Rep. Chew commented that this appropriation would be very beneficial for the state.

Sen. Dabakis asked about the timeliness and information of the audits.

Rep. Noel commented on the importance of sage grouse.

Rep. Stratton commented that funding sage grouse should be a priority.

Sen. Dayton commented that she is in support of the appropriation.

8 . RFA - HB 169 - Fiscal Note - Rep. Knotwell

Rep. John Knotwell presented the appropriation request.

Sen. Dabakis, Rep. Noel, Rep Sagers, and Rep. Kwan commented on the tax cut for Energy Solutions.

9 . RFA - PLPCO - NGO - Funding - Rep. Noel

Rep. Noel presented the appropriation request.

Rep. Kwan asked questions about the appropriation and the performance measures.

Sen. Dabakis commented on sending money to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) with a political bias.

Rep. Albrecht commented that there would be a high return for rural Utah by funding PLPCO.

Rep. Stratton commented that the appropriation is important and needed.

Rep. Kwan asked a question about the operating budget of the agency and if the agency is becoming self-sustaining.

10 . RFA - Watershed Restoration Initiative - Rep. Noel

Rep. Noel presented the appropriation request with the assistance of Danny Perkins, Sheriff, Garfield County.

Chair Chew commented that the Watershed Restoration Initiative produces results immediately.

11 . RFA - Technology for improving efficiencies in DEQ Waste Management - Rep. Perry

Rep. Perry presented the appropriation request.

Rep. Christofferson recommended the committee support the appropriation request.

12 . RFA - Bear Lake Recreation Improvements - Rep. Perry

Rep. Perry presented the appropriation request with the assistance of Mr. Dan Clark, Construction Manager, Division of Parks and Recreation.

Sen. Dayton asked if the funding will solely come from the State, or if the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) would also help fund the project.

13 . RFA - Foundation for Integrated Resource Management (F.I.R.M.) - Sen. Knudson

Sen. Knudson presented the appropriation request with the assistance of Stan Summers, Commissioner, Box Elder County, and Jeremiah Riley, General Counsel, FIRM.

Sen. Dabakis commented that public money should not be used to help fund specific advocate or political groups.

Rep. Kwan asked about the revenue stream.

Rep. Stratton asked about the accountability that would be in place for this appropriation.

14 . RFA - Mobile Monitoring Data Collection - Sen. Escamilla

Sen. Escamilla presented the appropriation request with the assistance of, Dr. Mendoza, and Erik Crosman, Professor, Atmospheric Sciences, University of Utah.

15 . Public Lands Policy Coordination Office Requests

Mr. Alex Wilson, Fiscal Analyst, LFA, discussed the appropriations requests.

Ms. Kathleen Clarke, Director, Public Lands Policy Coordination Office (PLPCO) spoke on the appropriation request.

Sen. Dabakis commented on the cost to sue the federal government.

Sen. Hinkins asked about funding options.

Rep. Kwan asked a question about an overlap in the appropriations request.

16 . DEQ Requests

Mr. Wilson gave an overview of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) appropriations requests.

Mr. Alan Matheson, Executive Director, DEQ, presented with the assistance of Mr. Jim Harris, Deputy Director, Division of Water Quality, and Mr. Jordan Mathis, Director, Tricounty Health.

[16a-DEQ Presentation](#)

Rep. Albrecht commented his support for the appropriations request.

17 . Parks and Recreation Requests

Mr. Djambov gave an overview of the appropriations request.

Mr. Scott Strong, Deputy Director, Division of Parks and Recreation, and Mr. Dan Clark, Construction Manager, Division of Parks and Recreation, explained the appropriation requests.

[17a-DPR Building Blocks](#)

Sen. Dabakis commented that the Parks and Recreation should request more General Funds.

Rep. Albrecht asked a question about the power line on the causeway at Antelope Island State Park.

Rep. Duckworth asked a question about Antelope Island State Park.

Mr. Fred Hayes, Director, Division of Parks and Recreation, responded to questions.

Sen. Hinkins assumed the chair.

18 . Water Resources Requests

Mr. Djambov gave an overview of the appropriation request.

Mr. Eric Millis, Director, Division of Water Resources, gave a presentation on the appropriation request, with the assistance of Mr. Jim Egbert, Financial Manager, Division of Water Resources.

[18a-Dam Safety Upgrades](#)

Chair Hinkins asked which dams are used to keep flooding out of the communities.

Sen. Dayton asked about the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) funding.

19 . Wildlife Resources Requests

Mr. Djambov gave an overview of the appropriation requests.

Mr. Mike Fowlkes, Director, Division of Wildlife Resources gave a presentation of the appropriation requests.

MOTION: Rep. Albrecht moved to adjourn.

Chair Hinkins adjourned the meeting at 10:32 p.m.